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Müller's Lectures it will be easy to perceive how systematically he has treated his subject, and what, in general, is his method; but no analysis can do justice to his clearness and vigor of statement, his copiousness of illustration, or the fresh life he has thrown into the most abstruse questions connected with the science.

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8. — *A Sketch of the History of the United States from Independence to Secession.* By J. M. LUDLOW, Author of "British India, its Races and its History," "The Policy of the Crown towards India," &c. To which is added, *The Struggle for Kansas.* By THOMAS HUGHES, Author of "Tom Brown's School-Days," "Tom Brown at Oxford," &c. Cambridge [England]: Macmillan & Co. 1862. Small 8vo. pp. xxii. and 404.

THE design of this work is praiseworthy; and we are sorry we cannot add that it has been executed in a manner equally deserving of commendation. "I find the ignorance of my countrymen on the subject of which it treats so general," says Mr. Ludlow in his Preface, "and feel that ignorance to be so dangerous in the feelings which it allows to grow up, and the conclusions to which it allows them to be led by newspaper writers, too often quite as ignorant as their readers, but only more audacious, that I have ventured to think no time should be lost in supplying some elementary, but, I trust, correct data on which a safer judgment may be formed by any who choose to think for themselves." But the writer of such a sketch who has not consulted "either the proceedings, or even the acts, of Congress," and who is not thoroughly acquainted with the Madison Papers, The Federalist, Elliott's Debates, Hamilton's Works, Curtis's History of the Constitution, and Webster's Speeches, is ignorant of much which he ought to know in order to present a trustworthy account of the nature and working of our complex system of government; and in this respect Mr. Ludlow is sadly deficient.

In his account of the last war with England, his prejudices crop out in a very extravagant manner: for instance, he devotes two pages and a half to the capture of the Chesapeake by the Shannon, and entirely omits to mention Perry's victory and several of our most important naval achievements. In his Preface he speaks with some show of indignation of the "outrage" committed by Captain Wilkes in the arrest of the rebel emissaries on board of the Trent. His account of the Bank controversy during Jackson's administration, which seems to have been based wholly on Benton's statements, needs to be entirely

recast before it can be received as an impartial narrative of that important episode in American politics; and several other parts of his History are also open to criticism. Nevertheless, Mr. Ludlow's volume is one of the very few books published in England since the breaking out of the rebellion which show a just conception of the character of the present struggle, and kindly sympathy with the great principles at stake. He sees, what few of his countrymen are willing to perceive, that there is no right of secession under the Constitution, that the triumph of the rebels is to be deprecated by every friend of liberty and order, and that the recognition of a confederacy based on slavery as its corner-stone is not the way to secure the freedom of the blacks, or even the manufacturing and commercial prosperity of England.

Mr. Hughes's contribution to the volume covers about sixty pages, and comprises the substance of two lectures, delivered, like those of Mr. Ludlow, before the Workingmen's College in London. It presents a pretty full summary of the struggle in Kansas between the Free Soil party and the friends of slavery extension, expressing cordial sympathy with the former, but not requiring special notice.

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9. — *Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society.* 1860 – 1862. Boston : Printed for the Society. 1862. 8vo. pp. xii. and 530.

THIS is the third volume of "Proceedings" published by the Massachusetts Historical Society within the last four or five years, and comprises, beside a record of the monthly and special meetings of the Society from April, 1860, to April, 1862, much historical matter which is worthy of preservation. Among the more important or more interesting materials thus preserved in an easily accessible form are some very curious excerpts from a manuscript History of New England, written in 1740 by Joseph Bennett; several documents connected with the famous case of *Phillips vs. Savage*; Stoughton's "Relation concerning New England"; a curious collection of medical recipes prepared in 1643 for Governor Winthrop, and now printed with explanatory notes by Dr. O. W. Holmes; Mr. Curtis's elaborate and conclusive report on the "Exchange of Prisoners during the American Revolution"; Mr. Winthrop's admirable "Memoir of the Hon. Nathan Appleton"; and the proceedings of the Society on the death of Judge Shaw, Judge White, Hon. William Appleton, and President Felton. There are also several shorter memoirs, numerous previously unpublished letters, and other matters of interest to the historical student. In the publica-